

University Has Important Data on Child Growth.—The data obtained by the Institute of Child Welfare of the University of California on different aspects of growth and development of children, cannot be duplicated elsewhere in the world. The utilization of this data is expected to develop a considerable reorganization in the techniques of teacher training in this State.

These conclusions have been reached by Dr. Daniel A. Prescott, member of the education faculty of Rutgers University, who is completing a year's study of both child and adolescent training in the University of California, under a special fellowship of the General Education Board, New York. The Board, which is actually a foundation maintained by Rockefeller funds, supports a number of the research activities of the institute.

Doctor Prescott listed twenty-three studies made by the Institute in the ten years of its existence, many of which concern aspects of growth and development in the same individual. The data range from biochemical tests and sociological findings to playtime behavior and samples of art produced by children of various ages. Not only will these studies figure in future teacher training, but they have many implications for the curricula of the secondary schools, Doctor Prescott said.

"These studies concern the problem of what the educators should know about children if they are to deal with them effectively," Doctor Prescott said. "The proper handling of the energy output, moods and emotions and the amount of work the pupil should do in the schoolroom and at home, are vitally concerned with these studies. The relation of physical growth to the child's social status is given attention, also.

"The task undertaken by the institute is a tremendous one, calling for a great deal of research."

Fourth Annual Postgraduate Assembly: Alumni Association, College of Medical Evangelists.—On Sunday, December 5, 1937, the Alumni Association of the College of Medical Evangelists presented the following program:

Morning Session

- 9:00 a. m.—Newer Developments in the Treatment of Arthritis, Dr. Robert Alan Hicks, Clinical Associate and Director of Laboratories, The Wyatt Clinic, Tucson.
- 9:30 a. m.—Treatment of Compound Fractures, Dr. Walter Ehalt, Chief Assistant Boehler Fracture Clinic of Vienna and Lecturer American Medical Association of Vienna.
- 10:00 a. m.—Contact Dermatitis, Dr. Laurence R. Taussig, Assistant Clinical Professor of Dermatology, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco.
- 10:30 a. m.—Pneumoperitoneum in the Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Dr. Edward W. Hayes, Associate Professor of Tuberculosis, College of Medical Evangelists School of Medicine, Los Angeles.

Recess

- 11:15 a. m.—Abdominal Surgery in Children, Dr. Loren R. Chandler, Associate Professor of Surgery and Dean of Stanford University School of Medicine, San Francisco.
- 11:45 a. m.—Certain Intrasplenic Lesions as a Cause of Sclerotic, Dr. Howard C. Naffziger, Professor of Surgery, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco.
- 12:15 p. m.—The Present Status of Convalescent Serum Therapy, Dr. Clarence M. Hyland, Pathologist, Children's Hospital, Hollywood.

Afternoon Session

- 1:45 p. m.—Some Things the General Practitioner Should Know About the Eye, Dr. William A. Boyce, Professor of Ophthalmology, College of Medical Evangelists School of Medicine, Los Angeles.
- 2:30 p. m.—Treatment of Superficial Malignancies, Dr. Henry J. Ullmann, Director, Department of Cancer Research, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara.
- 3:00 p. m.—Management of Vomiting in Children, Dr. Clifford D. Sweet, Chairman of Section on Pediatrics of American Medical Association.
- 3:30 p. m.—X-ray Treatment of Chronic Inflammatory Processes, Dr. Frederick Rodenbaugh, Director of the Radiological Departments, Franklin and Mary's Help Hospitals, San Francisco.

Recess

- 4:15 p. m.—Food Poisoning, Dr. Jacob Geiger, Department of Health, City and County of San Francisco.

4:45 p. m.—Medicine and Social Security, Dr. Morris Fishbein, Editor of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

5:15 p. m.—Painful Feet, Dr. Ernst Freund, Associate Professor of Orthopedics, College of Medical Evangelists School of Medicine, Los Angeles.

Evening Session

7:00 p. m.—Consideration of Rectal Diseases in General Practice, Dr. Malcolm R. Hill, Associate Professor of Proctology, College of Medical Evangelists School of Medicine, Los Angeles.

7:30 p. m.—The Treatment of Angina Pectoris, Dr. William Paul Thompson, Assistant Professor of Medicine, College of Medical Evangelists School of Medicine, Los Angeles.

8:00 p. m.—Urology in Children, Dr. A. Elmer Belt, Associate Professor of Urology, College of Medical Evangelists School of Medicine, Los Angeles.

8:30 p. m.—Acute Mechanical Obstruction of the Bowel, Dr. William B. Holden, Professor of Clinical Surgery, University of Oregon School of Medicine, Portland, Oregon.

Press Clippings.—Some news clippings dealing with matters related to public health activities or medical practice follow:

Doctors Quit Hospital as "Politics" Hit Visiting Staff of San Luis Obispo Institution Demands a Complete Reorganization

San Luis Obispo, Dec. 16.—Resignation of physicians, surgeons, and dentists in San Luis Obispo County from service on the visiting staff of the County General Hospital was in the hands of the Board of Supervisors today.

The alternative to the wholesale resignation was, according to the hospital's visiting staff, a complete reorganization of hospital management, removing it from "political control" and placing it in the hands of the staff.

Doctors, surgeons, and dentists continued their hospital work today, but it was generally admitted that the formal filing of the resignations had brought to a head a long-continued dispute over hospital management.

One regular and one resident physician in San Luis Obispo and one regular physician in Paso Robles were unaffected by the resignation. The members of the visiting staff who resigned have been assisting the regular physicians.

Meeting Monday

The next meeting of the Supervisors is set for Monday.

Pointing out in the letter, signed by E. D. Anderson, secretary of the visiting staff, and by every member of the County Medical and Dental Associations, that "we stand ready to give our services to the County Hospital, provided that institution is operated for genuinely indigent patients and free from political influence," the doctors charge that "many patients have been admitted regardless of ability to pay."

This, they assert, places an unfair burden upon the taxpayers, who bear the cost of maintaining the hospital.—*Los Angeles Examiner*, December 17, 1937.

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Doctors, Dentists Boycott Hospital, Accuse Politicians

San Luis Obispo, Dec. 17. (UP).—The County Hospital was under "boycott" today by the entire San Luis Obispo County medical and dental professions.

Doctors and dentists informed the County Supervisors they would no longer act on the visiting staff. They termed the hospital a "political football," claiming that county officials' friends, well able to pay for services, are being treated free. The two groups demanded a special welfare department to examine the financial condition of all hospital applicants.—*Los Angeles Examiner*.

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Three New Regents

Los Angeles can be proud of the high type of citizen represented by the three choices for members of the Board of Regents of the University of California, as named by Governor Merriam. The filling of all three vacancies from this section was to equalize the Board geographically.

Eleanor Banning Macfarland, as a member of one of the Southland's oldest and most influential families, the Bannings, is intimately familiar with the fundamental problems of higher education. She, herself, took special courses at the University of California. As secretary of the English-Speaking Union and an authority on League of Nations work, she has a broad outlook on social problems of the day.

Stuart O'Melveny as head of the Title Insurance and Trust Company has proved his business acumen and keen discernment. He is the son of Henry W. O'Melveny, the pioneer attorney, and is himself a native of Santa Monica. His training is expected to be invaluable in helping to meet economic problems of the University.

Gratifying to this area, too, is the choice of young Fred Moyer Jordan, the first graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles to be named to the Board. Jordan is only twelve years out of college, but he has become widely popular in alumni circles. He is head of the U. C. L. A. Alumni Association at present.

The Governor is to be congratulated upon his choices. They are ably qualified to help guide the destinies of one of the world's greatest universities.—Editorial, *Los Angeles Times*, December 26, 1937.

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Federal Control of Medicine Might Be Dangerous Plan

Federal control of medicine may have just been indorsed by 430 physicians in the East, but it is unlikely that it ever will be favored by a majority of the 164,000 other doctors who make up the profession in the United States.

Medical discovery and mechanical progress are the only two things that lift us above the level of the ancient races. In government and the arts we are no better than were the Greeks and Romans, perhaps not so good. And the willingness of modern people for war certainly is no advance from the age of stone or bronze.

Only in the conquest of disease have we exhibited any ascending humanity or altruism. The discoveries of Harvey, Lister, Pasteur, and hundreds of other unsung heroes—and heroines—of medical research were highly individualistic.

Nationalization of medicine could only serve to dull personal effort and tangle a noble occupation in a maze of petty politics in which studious and sincere doctors would find themselves subordinated to less-meritorious hand-shakers. Nationalization, it might be said here, is merely the modern sugar-coated word for socialization—whether of medicine, railroads or electric power—and twenty-five years ago was branded Red Socialism.

With all doctors working for the Government, and dependent for advancement on political favor, the average citizen probably would have to call up the ward boss to get attention for a sick child in the middle of the night.

Soldiers are particularly aware of what happens under the regimentation of medicine. Army medical officers become unusually calloused to human ills.

It is only human nature. Every soldier on sick call is a suspected malingerer. Soldiers with pride will not report to the infirmary until they are ready to drop.

"Paint it with iodine and mark him 'Duty,'" is an Army sarcasm, purporting to be the usual order of the surgeon to the medical orderly, regardless of whether the applicant has appendicitis or a broken leg.

Attendants at governmental institutions, prisons especially, charge that an inmate must be at the point of death before he can get any treatment other than a dose of salts.

Those examples are possibly an indication of what civil medicine could become if a uniformed service reduced physicians—good and mediocre—to a common rank. Getting in line for attention at a medical clinic, even federal, or getting in line for anything—except a theater—is too European for the American taste.

Of course, federal control has more adherents than those 450 who recently endorsed it. Among this group were 125 from the remote country districts of the New England states. Doubtless, it is a struggle for a physician to maintain himself in thinly populated and impoverished areas. It might be possible for the Government to provide physicians so situated, East or West, with a subsidy, making up the difference between a fair income and what the doctor can collect from his patients, thus providing proper attention for the people of farms and villages.

People now living have seen more medical discoveries than were made in the preceding 2,300 years which spanned known medical history back to Hippocrates, the Greek father of medicine, whose oath to aid the sick without thought of self is still taken by every graduating surgeon today. Nearly all keep it.

Our present system, the trusted family physician with his recourse to specialists in emergency, could not be shackled without damaging the welfare of the people. Public medicine is necessary to a certain extent—but not to 100 per cent.

For instance, no Americans who can possibly pay, want machine-like and impersonal obstetrics for their families.

Perhaps, if many of us were as meticulous with the doctor's bill as we are with the rent and car payment, there wouldn't be any talk of federal control of medicine.—*Los Angeles News*, November 30, 1937.

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Legislation Demanded

Washington.—W. G. Campbell, Food and Drug Administrator here, has demanded legislation empowering the Federal Government to prevent the marketing of dangerous drug mixtures, such as the sulfanilamide "elixir," before they have taken their deadly toll.

Supplementing his report on the activities of the Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, he

stated in an interview that the \$200 fine for first offenses against the Food and Drug Act was "no deterrent at all" to a manufacturer.

Speaking specifically of the "elixir," responsible for scores of deaths throughout the United States because the sulfanilamide, hailed by doctors as a major medical advance, was mixed with diethylene glycol, a dangerous chemical, Mr. Campbell asserted that the manufacturer should have made it his business to learn that diethylene glycol was dangerous before he used it. He added that the Federal Government should have the power to see that drug manufacturers do not make "mistakes" like that one again.

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Health Clinic Merger Urged

Consolidation of county and all municipal health organizations under one county-wide department of health was urged yesterday by Dr. Robert E. Plunkett of New York, nationally known health authority. He recently completed an exhaustive survey here in conjunction with the county's Bureau of Research.

Doctor Plunkett, who is general superintendent of tuberculosis hospitals for the State of New York, also recommended early construction of two 500-bed tuberculosis hospitals, with selection of patients to be under the direction of the County Health Commissioner.

Citing figures that tuberculosis mortality in the United States has fallen since 1900 from 202 persons per 100,000 population to fifty-five persons last year, Doctor Plunkett advised enlargement of clinic activities and unified nursing programs to maintain the advances.—*Los Angeles Examiner*, December 1, 1937.

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Supervisors Urge New State Laws for Nonresident Relief

The Board of Supervisors today was on record as endorsing a drive seeking new state legislation which would extend relief to so-called "technical nonresidents" of Los Angeles County, following demands presented by the Workers' Alliance.

Three hundred members of the alliance jammed the board's assembly room yesterday to request an amendment of present state laws prohibiting relief for persons who have not been self-supporting in California for at least three years, one of them in the county where application for aid is made.

The board also ordered investigation of complaints against present administration policies of the county charities department after members of the workers' delegation voiced claims that hundreds of Los Angeles school children whose parents are on relief are suffering from malnutrition.—*Los Angeles Herald-Express*, December 7, 1937.

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Rift Over Government Aid

New York, Dec. 1.—The split between the American Medical Association and the committee of 430 prominent physicians, of which Dr. Russell L. Cecil of New York Hospital is chairman, appeared appreciably widened yesterday, following a statement which Prof. John P. Peters of Yale University School of Medicine, handed out in reply to the attack the association's official journal made to the committee's four "principles" and nine "proposals" for changes in medical practice. Some of these would entail government support of certain aspects of materia medica.

The committee holds that "the health of the people is a direct concern of the government," whereas the American Medical Association view, voiced by its journal, is strongly against the proposals, holding that the government should not be permitted to influence, through money grants, medical practices or hospitalization.

Professor Peters, who is secretary of the committee, in a statement made public during the week-end, revealed for the first time that the program of his body had been presented to President Roosevelt by a small group of physicians and that the President had "listened graciously and sympathetically," but had made no commitments.

To Continue Campaign

Doctor Peters at the same time made it clear that his committee would continue its campaign to "liberalize" the American Medical Association and challenged the stand by the association's journal that no member of the association should support the committee's program. He denied that the association had rejected the committee's proposals, adding that should this happen, it would still be the "privilege" and, indeed, the "duty," of members of the committee to try by every reasonable means within their power to influence not only the governing body, but all the component societies and individual members to join them in a purpose they consider "good and just." . . .

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Medic Alumni Will Banquet

More than 120 alumni of the medical school of the University of Southern California will gather tomorrow night

in the banquet room of the Los Angeles County Medical Association for their annual reunion.

Dr. H. B. Tebbetts, president of the alumni, will preside. Dr. Rufus B. von Klein Smid, president of the university, and Dr. Frank F. Barham, an alumnus, who is publisher of The Evening Herald and Express, will address the physicians.

Other Speakers

Dean Paul McKibbin of the Medical School, and Dr. George Kress, president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, also will speak.

At the conclusion of the dinner, officers for the forthcoming year will be installed. Dr. Harold R. Witherbee, vice-president, will succeed Doctor Tebbetts. His place will be filled by Dr. Pierre Viole, present secretary-treasurer, who, in turn, will be succeeded by Dr. Anthony Laubersheimer.—*Los Angeles Examiner*, December 17, 1937.

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Los Angeles Called No. 1 Quack Nest of United States Up to State to Run Medical Charlatans Out of City, Dr. Morris Fishbein Declares

Los Angeles is America's No. 1 quack nest!

This was the declaration of Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the American Association Journal, yesterday when he addressed the fourth annual postgraduate assembly of the College of Medical Evangelists.

"It is high time state officials were driving the quacks out of business in Los Angeles," he said. "I have been in every city in the United States at least five times in the last two years, and I say without reservation that Los Angeles has more quacks than any other place in the country."

"This city is full of medical charlatans and numbo-jumbo practitioners of all kinds. It is up to the state of California to clean up the town!"

Ruin Many Lives

Doctor Fishbein declared medical quacks are ruining the lives of hundreds of persons every year.

"These fakirs with their lurid promises of cure-alls are bringing sorrow and tragedy to many of our citizens," he said. "I urge the men and women of the medical profession to join in the fight to end widespread quackery in Los Angeles."

Doctor Fishbein addressed one thousand physicians and surgeons in Paulson Hall of White Memorial Hospital.

Other speakers included Dr. Jacob Geiger of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, and Dr. Walter Ehalt, lecturer for the American Medical Association of Vienna.—*Los Angeles Examiner*, December 5, 1937.

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Insulin Shock Saves Mind Oklahoman's Mental Faculties Restored as Christmas Gift

Vinita (Okla.), Dec. 22. (AP).—A 29-year-old oil-field worker went home from the State Hospital today with a priceless Christmas gift—a clear, sound mind.

Doctors said he had been rescued from insanity by "shocks" of insulin.

Dr. Felix M. Adams, superintendent, explained that the patient, an inmate for five years, was the second dementia praecox cure out of an original group of eight started on the insulin treatment by the hospital last August.

Reaction Gratifies

"It is grand the way they react," he said. "They all improve physically at first."

"Two others, one a college graduate who majored in mathematics, the other a farm boy, could not answer questions coherently a few weeks ago. Now they organize their thoughts and express them lucidly. They are going home for a while. Though not quite normal, they may not have to come back."

"And this other young fellow who is going home for Christmas with his mother and sister, why, he's tickled to death, and as grateful. What a priceless Christmas gift for the family!"

Others to Get Care

A new group of twenty-five patients will be started on the insulin treatment soon. Even with the results so far, Doctor Adams believes a record for the insulin method has been set here. Previous experiments in Europe and the United States had been limited to dementia praecox cases of two years' duration.—*Los Angeles Times*.

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California Clinics to Spread New Health Methods

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—To insure that the developments of medical science may be carried from one end of the state to the other as quickly as they issue from the clinics and laboratories of the central medical centers, the California Medical Association has launched a five-year plan of field demonstration and study clinics. Nine cities—Stockton, Fresno, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Bar-

bara, San Jose, Santa Rosa, and Sacramento—have been suggested for the first of the clinics, and other cities will be added as the plan develops.

The plan, which has been titled "A Five-Year Study Program for Graduates in Medicine," links the medical centers of the Universities of California, Stanford, and Southern California, and the College of Medical Evangelists in Los Angeles, in the effort to establish numerous other centers strategically, and thereby assure a simultaneous spread throughout the state of the very latest procedures and developments in the healing sciences. Under the plan physicians and surgeons in the remotest places, who have found it difficult to take advantage of the consultation facilities provided by the large centers, may now go to the nearest clinic center and take advantage of those facilities to the fullest degree.

The clinics will be conducted by faculty members from the four centers named. In addition, the committee in charge contemplates forming teams of clinicians who will conduct a series of conferences in key centers in northern California.

In its preliminary announcement the Association states that the plan has been devised to enable the practitioner in the field to remain abreast of scientific progress, and to apply to his practice the newer procedures without delay, no matter how far he may be from the originating source.

The field clinics are the outgrowth of a partial field demonstration plan tried out by the University of California Medical School two years ago.—*Los Angeles Herald-Express*.

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Asserts Pacific Coast Smuggling of Dope Drops

Washington, Dec. 18. (AP).—Intensive war against smugglers, waged by the enforcement unit of the Customs Bureau, has virtually stopped importation of illegal narcotics on the Pacific Coast.

E. G. Shamhart, chief of the unit, said today no narcotics smuggled from the Orient had been seized on the west coast in months, while that which had been captured was found to have been smuggled through New York and shipped to coast peddlers.

Shamhart attributed the decrease of the smuggling on the Pacific to the expanded enforcement unit which circled the coasts and borders of the nation, with customs agents trained in the work of trapping smugglers. He said the ship strike on the West Coast and the war in the Far East had put the finishing touches to the criminals. . . .

LETTERS

Concerning American Red Cross: A letter of appreciation.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Washington, D. C.,
December 1, 1937.

To the Editor:—Please allow me to express to you in behalf of our national officers our very sincere appreciation for the generous contribution of space which you gave to the American Red Cross in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. It is only through the splendid coöperation which you and others give to us each November that we are enabled to extend a universal invitation to all Americans everywhere to participate in Red Cross work through individual memberships.

Cordially yours,
(Signed) DOUGLAS GRIESEMER,
Director of Roll Call.

Concerning the California Heart Association.

CALIFORNIA HEART ASSOCIATION
FOR THE STUDY AND PREVENTION OF HEART DISEASE

San Francisco,
October 15, 1937.

To the Editor:—The California Heart Association is now pushing forward the program which has been carefully worked out by the leading medical authorities of the State. These activities will be of greatest importance and will have a direct effect upon every practicing physician in California.

This program correlates and enlarges the work which has been carried on for the last ten years by the Los Angeles Heart Association in Southern California and